

***Amendments to the Claims:***

Please amend the claims as set forth below.

1. (Currently amended) A speaker support system adapted for use with a suspended ceiling of the type having a suspended ceiling grid including a plurality of ceiling grid openings and a plurality of ceiling panels sized to fit within the ceiling grid openings, the speaker support system comprising;

    a speaker support base replacing at least part of a ceiling panel and being capable of supporting at least one speaker within a grid opening without interfering with the operation of the speaker;

    a guide flange integral to the speaker support base, the guide flange being adapted to align at least a portion of a ceiling tile within the ceiling grid opening; and

    a support flange integral to the support base and with the guide flange forming an upside down T-shape, the support flange being adapted to support at least a portion of the ceiling tile within the ceiling grid opening so that at least a portion of the ceiling grid opening is filled with the speaker support base and the remaining portion of the ceiling grid opening is filled with the portion of the ceiling tile.

2. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 1 further including a support plate mounted to the speaker support base to strengthen the speaker support base.

3. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 1 further including at least one speaker mounted on the speaker support base.

4. (Currently Amended) The speaker support system of Claim 1 wherein the speaker support base fills about a first half of the ceiling grid opening and the ceiling tile fills about the second half of the ceiling grid opening.

5. (Currently Amended) The speaker support system of Claim 1 wherein the speaker support base fills about three quarters of the ceiling grid opening and the ceiling tile fills about one quarter of the ceiling grid opening.

6. (Currently Amended) The speaker support system of Claim 1 wherein the speaker support base, the guide flange and the support flange are formed from a single piece of material.

7. (Currently Amended) The speaker support system of Claim 1 wherein the speaker support system base is perforated.

8. (Currently Amended) A speaker support system adapted for use with a suspended ceiling of the type having a suspended ceiling grid including a plurality of ceiling grid openings and a plurality of ceiling panels sized to fit within the ceiling grid openings, the speaker support system comprising;

- a speaker support base replacing at least part of a ceiling panel and being capable of supporting at least one speaker within a grid opening without interfering with the operation of the speaker;

- a plate mounted to the speaker support base to strengthen the speaker support base;

- a guide flange integral to the speaker support base, the guide flange being adapted to align at least a portion of a ceiling tile within the ceiling grid opening; and

- a support flange integral to the speaker support base and with the guide flange forming an upside down T-shape, the support flange being adapted to support at least a portion of the ceiling tile within the ceiling grid opening, so that at least a portion of the ceiling grid opening is filled with the speaker support base and the remaining portion of the ceiling grid opening is filled with the portion of the ceiling tile.

9. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 8 further including at least one speaker mounted on the speaker support base.

10. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 8 wherein the speaker support base fills about a first half of the ceiling grid opening and the ceiling tile fills about the second half of the ceiling grid opening.

11. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 8 wherein the speaker support base fills about three quarters of the ceiling grid opening and the ceiling tile fills about one quarter of the ceiling grid opening.

12. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 8 wherein the speaker support base, the guide flange and the support flange are formed from a single piece of material.

13. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 8 wherein the speaker support system base is perforated.

14. (Currently Amended) A speaker support system adapted for use with a suspended ceiling of the type having a suspended ceiling grid including a plurality of ceiling grid openings and a plurality of ceiling panels sized to fit within the ceiling grid openings, the speaker support system comprising;

a speaker support base replacing at least part of a ceiling panel and being capable of supporting at least one speaker in alignment with a grid opening without interfering with the operation of the speaker;

a guide flange integral to the speaker support base, the guide flange being adapted to align at least a portion of a ceiling tile within the ceiling grid opening;

a support flange integral to the support base and with the guide flange forming an upside down T-shape, the support flange being adapted to support at least a portion of the ceiling tile within the ceiling grid opening, the speaker support base, the guide flange and the support flange being formed from substantially a single sheet of material, so that at least a portion of the ceiling grid opening is filled with the speaker support base and the remaining portion of the ceiling grid opening is filled with the portion of the ceiling tile; and a plate disposed adjacent and parallel to the speaker support base to thereby strengthen the speaker support base.

15. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 14 wherein the speaker support base fills about a first half of the ceiling grid opening and the ceiling tile fills about the second

half of the ceiling grid opening.

16. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 14 wherein the speaker support base fills about three quarters of the ceiling grid opening and the ceiling tile fills about one quarter of the ceiling grid opening.

17. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 14 wherein the speaker support system base is perforated.

18. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 17 wherein the plate includes an aperture and the speaker support system base is perforated with a plurality of closely spaced apart perforations in an area in alignment with the aperture in the plate to thereby provide a site for position of a speaker on the speaker support system which position permits free passage of sound from the speaker through the speaker support system.

19. (Original) The speaker support system of Claim 14 further including at least one speaker mounted to the support plate.